

Bellevue Zip Tour FAQs

What is zip lining and how does it work?

Zip lining is an outdoor adventure activity that involves using specialized gear to ride along a cable suspended above the ground. Each rider wears a helmet, gloves, safety lanyards, and a harness that is securely connected to the cable via carabiner and trolley system. With the help of gravity, the rider glides along the length of the cable for a unique aerial experience.

Two (2) professional, qualified guides travel with each group of eight (8) riders. One guide sends riders off of each platform up in the trees, and a second guide receives the riders at each successive tree platform. All guides receive extensive training by a qualified third party training company and are tested and course certified according to Association for Challenge Course Technology (ACCT) standards.

How many zip lines are in the tour, how long are they, and how fast do they go?

The Bellevue Zip Tour experience includes riding a series of seven (7) zip lines up in the trees. The individual lines range from 78 to 458 feet (*24 to 140 meters*) long. Riders may travel as fast as 35 mph (*56km/h*), and will be slowed by our guides who will be putting on the brakes for riders as they approach each platform. Extra bonus: the zip tour also includes two aerial suspension bridges!

How much time and physical effort does the tour take?

The tour is estimated to last up to 2 ½ hours, including time for check-in, orientation, and gearing up. The exact length of time depends on tour size and weather conditions. Please plan on a three hour window that includes activities such as:

- walking uphill, including a steep hill to get to the meeting and orientation area
- climbing two (2) ladders and a short staircase
- standing on platforms between zip lines while wearing a few extra pounds of gear

Participants with heart conditions or high blood pressure should consult a physician. This tour is not for those who are pregnant, have current back or neck issues/injuries, have a major fear of heights, experience dizziness, seizures, or any other serious medical condition. Guests should be prepared for moderate physical exertion.

Who is allowed to ride the tour and how much does it cost?

The minimum required age to ride the Bellevue Zip Tour is nine (9) years old. Youths ages 9 to 13 years old must be accompanied on the zip tour by an adult chaperone. Each adult chaperone can accompany up to two (2) youths. All riders must weigh at least 60 pounds (*28 kg*), but no more than 275 pounds (*124 kg*).

The cost for riders aged 9 to 17 years old is \$44. Adult riders aged 18 years and older cost \$69. There are no group, senior, or other discounts available.

When can I ride the zip tour?

The Bellevue Zip Tour is open April to October. During the summer (Memorial Day to Labor Day) we're open seven days a week! During the spring (April & May) and fall (September & October) we're open Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.

Tours are scheduled for 9:00am*, 10:30am, 12:00pm, 1:30pm, 3:00pm, and 4:30pm.

**PLEASE NOTE: there is no 9:00am tour on Sundays.*

Special event tours are also available (*see next page*).

Do I need to make a reservation?

Advance reservations are strongly encouraged as most tours sell out. Reservations can be made up to eight (8) weeks in advance. Same day reservations and walk-ins are accepted only if there is still space available. Call us at 425-452-4240 first to check for availability.

Can I bring my staff, my team, or another large group out for teambuilding or a special event?

Yes! Business teams, sports teams, and even wedding parties have come out to do the zip tour together. If you are interested in bringing a group of more than ten (10) riders to the zip tour should contact us at 425-452-4240 to discuss a customized plan that best meets your group's needs. And yes, we're happy to schedule a special tour time that works for your group's schedule.

What should I wear and what should I bring with me?

Participants must wear well secured shoes with fully enclosed uppers such as athletic or hiking shoes. Clogs, Crocs, flip-flops, or other footwear that will slip off is not allowed. Please wear comfortable clothing including shorts that cover down to mid-thigh and a shirt that covers your entire torso. Please remove all jewelry before arrival at the zip tour. Long hair needs to be tied back. Please dress for the weather.

Anything that riders do not want dropped, broken, or lost in the woods should be left on the ground. We will provide a bin for each tour group to store their belongings while they're riding. If any riders choose to bring a camera we can provide them with a small lanyard and clip to help keep it secure. This will reduce the possibility of a drop, but anything brought onto the tour is at the participants' own risk.

What if it's raining / snowing / cold or if there's lightning or thunder?

The Bellevue Zip Tour can and will operate in all types of weather, including rain and cold temperatures. Please check the forecast and dress accordingly. The zip tour will close temporarily if we experience extreme high winds, lightning/thunder, or ice. Once conditions are safe again for our guests and guides we'll happily resume operations.

Bellevue Parks reserves the right to cancel tours due to inclement weather, foreseeable hazards, insufficient bookings, or events beyond our control. In these events, full refunds will be made or alternative dates offered.

How safe is this, really?

All outdoor adventure activities carry certain inherent risks, however, we take numerous steps to limit the possibility of any incidents occurring. The Bellevue Zip Tour is committed to adhering to Association for Challenge Course Technology (ACCT) standards, including those pertaining to course inspections and maintenance, equipment used, staff training and certification, and general operations practices.

The ACCT is the world's leading and largest American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Accredited Standards Developer focused specifically and solely on the challenge course industry (including aerial adventure parks, zip lines, canopy tours, and challenge courses).

We are pleased to partner with a qualified, third party ACCT Professional Vendor Member to help ensure we are providing our zip tour guests with the best experience possible.